## WHAT TO DO

## AFTER YOU ACCEPT THE GIFT OF SALVATION THROUGH FAITH IN CHRIST

In order to stay alive physically, we need food, water, and oxygen. If you have been reborn spiritually by receiving salvation, you need three things to stay healthy spiritually:

READING THE BIBLE IS YOUR "FOOD." In Matthew 4:4 Jesus repeated an Old Testament teaching that man doesn't live on bread only, but also on every word from God. Be sure to use a widely accepted version of the Bible, rather than one published by a particular religious sect. If you don't have a Bible, you may find one at a bookstore or by ordering (one source is christianbook.com), or you could get a Bible app for a computerized tool (one source is biblegateway.org). You can see wording styles of various versions by visiting the biblegateway.org website. You can also find Bible study helps at that website and others.

YOUR "WATER" IS THE HOLY SPIRIT. It's important to pay attention to those inner promptings you feel that line up with what the Bible says. Romans 8:5-6 tells us that those who live according to the guidance of the Holy Spirit will be thinking about what the Holy Spirit desires rather than following their sinful human nature.

PRAYER IS YOUR "OXYGEN." You need to keep an open line of communication with God. "The Lord's Prayer" found in Matthew 6:9-13 gives us a pattern for prayer—(1) Adoration; (2) Praying for God's will to be done; (3) Asking God to supply what you need; (4) Asking God to forgive your sins as you forgive others for their sins against you (5) Asking God to help you be obedient.

God wants believers to spend time with other believers (Hebrews 10:25).

If possible, get involved in a church. Be careful to choose one that believes that salvation is through faith in Christ, as the Bible clearly says, and one that teaches the entire Bible and uses it as their basis for truth. (If their statement of faith conveys the same beliefs as that of the National Association of Evangelicals, that's a good sign.) Then be baptized in water to show that your old way of life has died and you have been raised to new life through Christ.

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## Happy Valentine's Day